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North Equatorial Africa - Algeria/French West &
Equatorial Africa/Uganda/Kenya/Ethopia/Eritrea
Condition of Roads

North and Equatorial Africa



Jan to April 54

CD NO.	
COG NO.	
ORG NO.	
DES NO.	
CC NO.	
STATE	ARMY
NAVY	AIR

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25X1X6

I. The following are descriptions of 31 - 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 transparencies and 23 - 35mm transparencies showing typical road conditions in Northern Africa. These are on loan and can be examined at Graphics Register. The locations shown on the accompanying map are approximate.

A. No.	Country	Description
22-6	Southern Morocco	Route to Tarhit. Bad road because of washboard effect, plus dry stream beds jutting into route.
43-1	Southern Algeria	Hammada desert near Adrar. Typical of rock-gravel desert, old salt beds in background.
46-10	French West Africa	Gao-Niamay route. See description No. 2 of 35mm transparencies for details of road.
49-7	French Equatorial Africa	Laterite road near Ft. Lamy.
89-8	Northern Kenya	Dirt gravel road--Hoori hills in background, as well as Ethiopian escarpment.
89-9	Northern Kenya	Ethiopian escarpment
89-6	Northern Kenya	Feroli Mountain.
91-12	Southern Ethiopia	Highland pastures between Mega and Negheli.
91-10	Southern Ethiopia	Highlands between Mega and Negheli.

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<u>No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Description</u>
95-9	Ethopia	Mountain just north of Addis, beginning of good road built by Italians between Addis and Asmara, Eritrea.
100-2	Northern Ethiopia	North of Dessye
102-6	Northern Ethiopia	Grades on mountain roads sometimes hit 30 and 33 percent.
102-11	Northern Ethiopia	Northern road north of Dessye
103-7	Northern Ethiopia	Crater lake just south of Sangata [Sangata not marked on map]
105-5	Northern Ethiopia	2nd mountain pass, north of Dessye
106-7	Northern Ethiopia	Typical bridge on road, built by Italians
107-10	Northern Ethiopia	Mountain road, south of Sangata
107-5	Northern Ethiopia	Mountain road, south of Sangata
107-8	Northern Ethiopia	Road in slight valley
108-6	Northern Ethiopia	Valley, south of Sangata
108-1	Northern Ethiopia	Going down to Valley
108-12	Northern Ethiopia	View of valley from above
109-4	Northern Ethiopia	Ruined Italian house, road descending into new valley.
112-2	Northern Ethiopia	Immediately south of Sangata
112-3	Northern Ethiopia	Immediately south of Sangata
112-7	Northern Ethiopia	Immediately south of Sangata
113-3	Northern Ethiopia	Immediately south of Sangata
113-7	Northern Ethiopia	Sangata Market
115-8	Eritrea	Asmara-Masawa road, hard-surfaced

B. 35mm Transparencies

1	Southern Algeria	Great Dunes around Beni Abbes
2	Southern Algeria	Edge of dune area, Beni Abbes. Surface here sandy, giving way to gravel. (Route south from Beni Abbes across desert made difficult because of washboard effect--corrugations in road which require that a certain speed be maintained.

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No.	Country	Description
2	Southern Algeria	(Continued) Coati about 45 mph vibrations of corrutations disappear; below this speed, the vehicle is quickly shaken to pieces. Dried up river beds frequently have cut deep gullies across road, whose width is hardly anywhere less than 30-40 feet, except in gullies and rock passes.)
CIA-140081 3	French West Africa	Sand route between Gao, French Niger, and Niamey. Route follows Niger river for some distance, and during the rainy season the road often becomes flooded. Soft sand surface, becoming lateritic as desert is left behind.
CIA-140082 4	French West Africa	Gao-Niamey route
CIA-140083 5	French West Africa	Gao-Niamey route. Thorn trees typical.
CIA-140084 6	French West Africa	Flooded section of Gao-Niamey route.
CIA-140085 7	French West Africa	Stakes are set out to mark road surface when covered by floods. Laterite roads, rust red color, become dangerously slippery when wet.
CIA-140086 8	French West Africa	Another encroachment of Niger river between Gao and Niamey.
CIA-140087 9	French Equatorial Africa	Flooded section, Gao-Niamey.
CIA-140088 10	French Equatorial Africa	Fort Lamy - Bondor. Typical of savannah country.
CIA-140089 11	French Equatorial Africa	Close to Bongor. Rivulet ran across road to Logone river.
CIA-140090 12	French Equatorial Africa	More of Logone, close to Bongor. Large swamp areas.
CIA-140091 13	French Equatorial Africa	Villages near Bongor
CIA-140092 14	French Equatorial Africa	Villages near Bongor
CIA-140093 15	Uganda	Sisal plantations. Laterite road.
16	Kenya	Area around Nairobi
CIA-140094 17	Northern Kenya	Volcanic desert area north of Marsabit.
18	Northern Kenya	Same area. Pebbly, sandy surface. Sometimes what there is of the road consists only of lava rocks, big as a fist. Terrible for tires. During rainy season, entire area washed out.

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<u>No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Description</u>
19	Northern Kenya	Hoori Hills, just north of Marsabit. Volcanic origin.
20	Northern Kenya	Hoori hills
21	Northern Kenya	Hoori hills
CIA-140095 22	Northern Kenya	Hoori hills
CIA-140096 23	Northern Kenya	Lava "thumb".

2. Available for inspection at Graphics Register is a map of Northern Africa showing route of the expedition and approximate location of photographs.7

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